

REMARKS

Amendments

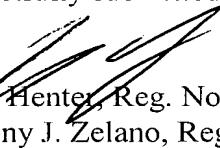
Support for the amendments can be found, for example, in example 2, and on pages 6, lines 5-7 and 31-32, and page 8, lines 21-29.

The Rejection Under 35 USC § 102

The rejections over US 6,587,262 are moot in view of the amendments. The Office Action admits that the reference does not teach removal of any portion of the diameter of the ingot. See Office Action page 4, about the middle of the page.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,


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